

*The Times*, Monday, Aug 17, 1891; pg. 3; Issue 33405; col C  
**Socialist Labour Congress In Brussels.**

## SOCIALIST LABOUR CONGRESS IN BRUSSELS.

BRUSSELS, Aug. 16.

An International Socialist Labour Congress, organized by the Belgian labour party, was inaugurated to-day at the *Maison du Peuple*, the headquarters of the labour party here. The proceedings were of a purely formal character, consisting in the official reception of delegates, the verification of their credentials, and the appointment of committees. Every country in Europe, excepting Russia and Portugal, is represented. The Belgian delegates number no fewer than 188, all the industries connected with wood and iron, including the mining interest, being strongly represented. In all, 363 delegates have reported themselves, a considerable number being ladies. In addition to the 188 Belgian delegates there are 42 from Germany, 11 from Austria, 69 from France, 23 from Great Britain, six from the United States, nine from Holland, six from Switzerland, three from Denmark, three from Norway and Sweden, two from Italy, five from Poland, five from Roumania, two from Hungary, and one from Spain. The two branches of Socialism known in France as the Marxists and the Blanquists are both represented in force, while M. Allemane himself will look after Possibilist interests. Among the German delegates are several well-known Socialist leaders, including Herrn Bebel, Liebknecht, and Singer.

The British delegates include Dr. Edward Aveling and Mrs. Aveling (who is a daughter of the German Socialist Carl Marx); Mr. William Thorne, representing the Gasworkers' General Labourers' Union; Mr. William Sanders, representing the Legal Eight Hours and International Labour League; Mr. Frederick Lessner, representing the Bloomsbury Socialist Society; Messrs. W. Parnell and T. Walker, representing the Cabinet Makers' Alliance; Mr. H. Burrows, representing the 'Navy's', Bricklayers' Labourers, and Metalworkers' Union; J. H. Watts, representing the Social Document Federation; Messrs. H. Banks and D. Macdonald, representing the London Society of Compositors; Mr. Hobson, of the Sheffield Trades Council; Mr. Holmes, of the Leicester Trades Council; Mr. J. Ogilvie, representing the Scottish Labour party; Messrs. Greenwood and Volhei, representing the Yorkshire Glass Bottle Blowers; Mr. R. Taylor, of the London Trades Council; Mr. V. Gillies, of the International Federation of Trades and Industries; Mr. C. Bolge, of the London Patriotic Club; and Mr. Juggins, representing the Midland Counties Federation. The London Autonomy Club is also represented. Messrs. Burns and Hyndman were expected, but have not arrived.

It was resolved, that Herr Singer, who is a member of the German Reichstag, and M. Vaillant, a member of the Paris Municipal Council, should be joint presidents at the first actual business meeting of the Congress. The sittings of the Congress will extend over the whole week. It is announced that the voting will be taken by nationalities, but it remains to be seen whether this arrangement will meet with general approval. Speeches are to be limited in their duration to ten minutes, and will be translated for the benefit of all sections of the Congress immediately after their delivery. Anarchists and other revolutionary factions are excluded from the Congress. This, at all events, was resolved upon by the Belgian organizers of the meeting, and the principle was confirmed to-day in connexion with the verification of credentials, when a somewhat noteworthy incident occurred. The Belgian members objected to the admission of three delegates representing Anarchist groups. Some slight opposition to their action was offered by Mr. Gillies, of London, and one or two others, who supported the Anarchists. M. Volders, the local Belgian organizer, maintained that, as the Conference had really nothing in common with the aims or methods of the Anarchists, these delegates certainly ought not to be admitted. It was resolved, almost unanimously, in the end, to abide by the recommendation of the Belgians, and the Anarchist delegates were accordingly excluded from the Congress.

Two American delegates each claimed to represent the same society. A long discussion brought to light the fact that the society had been split into two sections, and both delegates were therefore admitted. One American delegate represents no fewer than 40 groups of Socialists. Some delegates represent a large number of associations, but no particulars are yet obtainable as to the number of men represented, excepting in the case of the British delegates, who are said to represent 100,000 men. The room in which the Congress meets has been specially decorated for the occasion, the banners of all the Brussels workmen's associations having been called into requisition for the purpose. The decorations are not confined to the hall itself, but extend to the whole building, while over many taverns and houses in the immediate vicinity float flags and bunting of various kinds—red, however, being the prevailing colour. To-morrow the Congress will proceed with the business on the programme, which includes the following important subjects:—The legislative protection of labour, the laws concerning combination, strikes, and boycotting, the position and duty of the working classes with respect to militarism, the attitude of the organized workmen of all countries with respect to the Jewish question, universal suffrage, the emancipation of labour, the eight hours question, and the Socialist organization and Socialist problems.—*Reuter's Special Service.*

### THE SOCIALIST LABOUR CONGRESS AT BRUSSELS.

BRUSSELS, AUG. 17.

The International Socialist Labour Conference reassembled this morning at 10 o'clock, not in the *Maison du Peuple*, where the first meeting was held yesterday, but in the more spacious and comfortable *Halle Saint Michel*, in the Rue d'Or.

The *Halle Saint Michel*, as well as the *Maison du Peuple*, has been decorated with red flags and other Socialist emblems. Ten o'clock was the hour fixed for the resumption of business, but it was nearly 11 before the Congress actually got to work, the intervening hour being occupied by the consideration in private of the Standing Orders. When the sitting began, M. Anseele, a Belgian delegate, was appointed President for the French language, and Mr. Hobson, of the Sheffield Trades Council, President for the English language.

It was announced that the Standing Orders Committee recommended that the Congress should sit each day in the morning from 10 until half-past 12, and in the afternoon from 2 to 5. A reporter should be appointed for each nationality, and be allowed to speak for 15 minutes on any question, the speeches of other delegates being limited to ten minutes' duration. Further, a delegate might be permitted to speak twice on the same subject, but on the second occasion should be allowed five minutes only. These regu-

mendations were unanimously adopted. It was also decided that a committee composed of one delegate from each nationality should meet during the dinner hour, to arrange what business should be taken in the afternoon, and in what form it ought to be dealt with.

Considerable discussion arose over a claim put forward by an Italian delegate from Milan, named Alleva, who intimated that he was an Anarchist, but declared that he was nevertheless entitled to be present as the representative of various associations of Italian working men. It was forcibly pointed out to Signor Alleva that he was, in fact, present, that no one had suggested his expulsion, and that, therefore, there was no necessity whatever to debate the matter. At last, after nearly 40 minutes had been wasted over it, the subject was dropped. In order, however, to give time to the committee on the orders of the day to consider the question, it was decided that the Congress proper should not resume until 3 o'clock.

The afternoon sitting of the Congress did not begin till 4 o'clock. The cause of this delay was the protracted deliberation of the three international committees to which the first three subjects on the *agenda* paper had been referred. The committee which considered the question of labour-protecting legislation, national and international, and the means to be used for extending it and rendering it efficacious, was unable to arrive at any decision on the subject and postponed the presentation of its report until to-morrow. The second committee, which considered the right of combination, its securities and methods, from an international standpoint, recommended that the subject should be handled in connexion with the tenth item on the programme, which has reference to the problems of practical organization. This point was debated for some time without any definite conclusion, and ultimately the subject was temporarily dropped in order to permit of the reading of telegrams which had been received from all parts of Europe and from America. These telegrams were all of a fraternal character, and some of them were very warmly received.

After the telegrams had been read, it was announced that Mr. Burton, from London, was in attendance, not as a delegate, but in order to appeal to the Congress for sympathy on behalf of the London carpenters and joiners, whom he represented, and who were now on strike. It was unanimously resolved that Mr. Burton should be permitted to remain, and that as the London carpenters and joiners had struck for shorter hours he should be allowed to speak when the eight hours question came on for discussion.

The representative of the Ghent Co-operative Society then cordially invited the members of the Conference to visit Ghent on Sunday next. A special train, he stated, had been chartered for the purpose, and the delegates would be the guests of his society. The Congress decided to accept the invitation. Another invitation from the trade unionists of Brussels to the foreign delegates to an entertainment to-night at the *Maison du Peuple* was likewise accepted. By this time 5 o'clock had been reached, and it was resolved to adjourn, referring back the question of combination for further consideration by Committee No. 2. Sixteen more delegates arrived to-day, of whom five are French and seven English. The latter are Messrs. H. Quelch, of the South Side Labour Protection League, London; W. Snow, of the Tottenham School Board, representing the Gasworkers; E. R. Peace, of the Fabian Society; W. Spow and W. Key, representing the National Amalgamated Sailors' and Firemen's Union, which comprises 120,000 members; and J. Deakin and E. Gileward, of the Walsall Socialist Society.

Various printed reports were issued to the delegates to-day. One of these is presented from Great Britain and Ireland by the Gasworkers' Union, the General Labourers' Union, the Legal Eight Hours and International Labour League, the Bloomsbury Socialist Society, and the Battersea Labour League combined. The report begins by declaring that the trade union movement, which has attracted so much attention during the last two years, and which is described as the "new unionism," is undoubtedly of a Socialistic nature. "It is true," says the report, "that in England 'labour party' and 'Socialist party' are not yet convertible expressions, as they are on the Continent, but they are rapidly becoming so, and this notwithstanding the fact that not a few of the new unionists themselves would be among the first to deny it." The report further draws attention to the fact that at the Trade Union Congress at Liverpool last year 44 out of the 70 resolutions proposed called for Government or municipal interference.

Other reports deal with the progress made by the Socialist or labour movements in Germany, Belgium, and Roumania.—*Reuter's Special Service.*

***The Times***, Wednesday, Aug 19, 1891; pg. 3; Issue 33407; col D



***The Times***, Thursday, Aug 20, 1891; pg. 3; Issue 33408; col C



### THE SOCIALIST LABOUR CONGRESS AT BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS, AUG. 20.

The International Socialist Labour Congress reassembled at half-past 10 o'clock this morning in the Halle St. Michel, this being the fifth day of the meeting. The presidents for the sitting were Herr Roscher and Signor Surati, the former being an Austrian and the latter an Italian delegate.

Signor Surati, in his introductory remarks, said he was proud to preside over so mighty an alliance, which, he trusted, would outlast any triple or quadruple alliance in the world.

The Congress, for the first time, was enabled to go straight to the business in hand. The first question to be considered was that of combination in all its various aspects. For the purposes of the discussion two orders of the day were combined, so that the Congress might deal comprehensively with the whole question of the "right of combination, its securities, strikes, boycotting, and co-operative movements, from an international point of view," together with the more general problem of "serious practical organization."

M. Arthur Groussier, a delegate representing the French Federation of Metallurgists, reported to the Congress the decisions at which the committee appointed to consider these subjects had arrived. He recalled the fact that organization was impossible in certain countries, on account of prohibitive laws, and said it was therefore questionable whether substantial progress could ever be made by the working classes in these countries without incurring risks. In spite of this consideration, however, a proposal had been made in committee in favour of an international

committee, but eventually it had been agreed that for the present it would be better to aim simply at federation in the various countries individually. As regarded the creation of a more active connexion between labour organization and political propaganda, it had been pointed out to the committee that there were some countries in which it would be a mistake to allow labour parties to become political, and the committee accordingly was of opinion that it had better be left to the labour parties in the several countries to deal with the question in the manner they thought most advisable. With respect to strikes, the committee, while recognizing that they might at times be necessary, thought, seeing how often they had proved unsuccessful, the working classes should be recommended to take every precaution before resorting to that method of asserting their claims.

The views of the committee were embodied in a long resolution, which affirmed all the points enumerated. The speaker went through the various topics on which secretaries to be appointed in the various countries were to correspond for the purpose of diffusing information, and dwelt at considerable length on the legislation for which the workers should agitate. He also laid down the doctrine that workmen everywhere should strengthen their organization as far as possible, in case a general strike should become necessary, and added that a resolution to that effect had been adopted, though not unanimously, by the committee.

Herr Bock, a German delegate, submitted what may be termed a minority report on behalf of his fellow-countrymen on the committee. He said that they were desirous of entering into the closest relations possible with the workers of other lands; but, having regard to the fact that even national—to say nothing of international—combination was forbidden by the laws of their country, they were not able to support the policy of appointing national secretaries for the purpose of carrying on such a correspondence as that proposed. They believed, however, that communication ought to be maintained between the secretaries of the various individual organizations. The German members of the committee also entered an objection to any agitation intended to promote a general strike.

Dr. Aveling, who attends as the delegate of the Gasworkers' and General Labourers' Association (London), supported the views put forward by the German members of the committee. The society which he represented had, he said, already done everything in its power in the direction of corresponding with the working men of other countries, but he thought the time had not yet come for appointing national secretaries.

M. Fanriane, who represents the Belgian

the British, the Germans, and those acting with M. Delcluze.

At this point Signor Surati, the Italian president, suggested that as the Congress seemed almost unanimous on the subject it should proceed to the vote. This suggestion being favourably received, M. Delcluze was called upon to wind up the debate. When he had done so, the final draft of the resolution was read. The vote was then about to be taken, when M. Groussier rose and endeavoured to speak. Loud cries of "Vote" and "Closure" were raised, and a scene of great disorder ensued. M. Groussier protested energetically against the closure, while the chairman rang his bell incessantly. Ultimately the motion for closing the debate was put and carried, though not by a very large majority. M. Groussier, whose action received the support of a considerable number of French and Belgian delegates, still remained in the tribune, demanding permission to speak. The votes of Germany, Austria, the United States, and Great Britain were then given unanimously in favour of the resolution as amended, but as M. Groussier still refused to leave the tribune, and persisted in his opposition, M. Volders, secretary to the Congress, intervened with the suggestion that the votes of the remaining nationalities should not be recorded until to-morrow. The corrected draft of the resolution might, he pointed out, be printed in the meantime, and the votes be taken in the morning without discussion. This course was agreed to, and the Congress then adjourned.

The amended resolution, which is of considerable length, affirms that it is the duty of the working classes to organize strikes and boycotting, these being the only weapons which at present they possess for carrying on war against capital. This war should be maintained by the various groups of workers with vigour, but, nevertheless, recourse should be had to arbitration whenever this is practicable without compromising the dignity of labour. A central committee should be established in every country where it is possible for the purpose of obtaining, centralizing, and diffusing information concerning labour matters. All wage-earners should become members of trade unions, and the employment of the workers should be regulated only by their own unions and by labour exchanges of which they have the control. Contracts for public works should be given to trade unions only, and if a union refused to undertake the work, then it should be performed only by firms who employed none but trade unionists. The resolution also declares that the right of combination should be guaranteed by law, and that severe penalties should be imposed on any one making an attack upon that right.—*Reuter's Special Service*.

## THE SOCIALIST LABOUR CONGRESS AT BRUSSELS.

BRUSSELS, Aug. 21.

The British delegates to the Socialist Labour Congress held a private meeting this morning, when, on the motion of Mr. Sprow, representative of the Sunderland shipbuilders, seconded by Mr. Parnell, of the Cabinetmakers' Alliance, London, it was agreed that the British section should support the resolution in favour of the abolition of piecework when that subject came before the Congress. Mr. Holmes, of the Leicester hosiery trade, moved an amendment, which was seconded by Mr. Hobson, of the Sheffield Trades Council, to the effect that the abolition of piecework should be advocated only in those places where it was found to have a demoralizing effect and was calculated to bring about a reduction of wages; but the meeting decided, by 12 votes to six, to support the total suppression of the system.

Mr. Burrows, representing the Navvies', Bricklayers', Labourers', and Matchmakers' Union, then moved, and Mr. Ogilvy, of the Scottish labour party, seconded, a resolution recommending that the next Congress should be called the "International Workers' Congress." Mr. Thorne, of the Gasworkers' Union, moved as an amendment that it should be called the "International Socialist Labour Congress," but the original resolution was carried by 13 votes to six.

The Congress resumed at half-past 10 o'clock in the Halle Saint Michel, the presidents for the day being M. Jeppersen, a Norwegian delegate, and M. Mille, who is a Roumanian. In his opening remarks, M. Mille appealed to the Congress to raise aloft the red flag, which was red with the blood of workers, of Socialists, and of Russian Nihilists. Referring to the subject which

the Congress was about to consider—the military system—the speaker observed that, thanks to that accursed system, the Roumanian peasant earned 4d. a day and lived in a hut, which was no better as a dwelling than the caves of primitive times.

M. Dumay, one of the Deputies for Paris in the French Chamber, reported the result of a visit made by him to Wivegnies, near Fournies, in the Nord, where 2,000 workmen had gone out on strike to compel the reinstatement of a miner who had been dismissed from his employment for advocating trade union principles. There was a strong force of gendarmes and cavalry in the district, but the strikers maintained a firm attitude, and he had been escorted back to the station by a crowd of 4,000 men and women.

The votes were then taken without discussion, as arranged yesterday, on the amended resolution submitted by the committee appointed to consider the question of combination. The deputies from Germany, Austria, Great Britain, America, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Holland, Switzerland, Norway, Roumania, Hungary, Poland, and Sweden were all unanimously in its favour. The Belgians voted for it with only three dissentients, and it was agreed to by the great majority of the French representatives. When the president announced that the resolution had been passed by every nationality represented at the Congress all the delegates rose to their feet and cheered enthusiastically.

It should be mentioned that the resolution in its final form was not precisely the same as that for which the British delegates voted last night. The passages referring to strikes and to the appointment of an international correspondence committee were left unaltered, but the last paragraph declaring that Government work should be given

to the Socialist Labour Congress at Brussels. They state that until the working men of Russia are organized, and the country is covered with a network of Socialist societies and trade unions, they could have no *raison d'être* at such an assembly. Hitherto their aims have been retarded by the terrible tyranny under which the working men of Russia are suffering—a tyranny that unites the worst features of Western absolutism with all the horrors of an Oriental despotism. With the construction of railways, however, and the opening up of Asia, Russia is becoming more and more a commercial and industrial State, whilst the workers are gaining the necessary means of communication.

The pamphlet goes on to say that a great social revolution is now being evolved, and that when the working men of Russia are properly organized there will appear for the first time in history a force strong enough to overthrow Czarism, the present form of Government, and capable of raising the country to a position which will enable her to take her place amongst the civilized Powers of the world. As Social Democrats, they are not opposed to terrorism, so long as it is directed against Russian despotism as a system and not against particular persons. The Russian proletariat is no novice in revolutionary movements. A group of workmen originated the idea of blowing up the Imperial Palace in 1880, and it was carried out by a workman. In spite of all the efforts of the Russian secret police, revolutionary societies are to-day more numerous and stronger than ever. When the time for holding another Socialist Labour Congress comes round they will be organized and send delegates.

This pamphlet has been forwarded to Brussels for presentation to the Congress.—*Our Correspondent.*

*The Times*, Saturday, Aug 22, 1891; pg. 8; Issue 33410; col B

THE BRUSSELS SOCIALIST CONGRESS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The International Congress, now sitting, can boast of being numerously attended, and it must be acknowledged that, in spite of the very provocative circumstances under which it was convened, there has been a considerable self-control exercised by those who had every reason to quarrel with one another. It has already been explained how the Belgians broke their pledge, the result of which was that many of those who had participated in the Possibilist Congress felt that they had been betrayed, and hesitated to go to Brussels. The negotiations with the Marxists caused, too, so much delay that it was difficult to elect delegates so late in the day. Thus the Parliamentary committee, representing the whole of English trade unionism, has not sent a delegate. The Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the best organized and the strongest trade union in the world; the Miners' Association, and the Metropolitan Radical Federation, which were represented at the Possibilist Congress of 1889, have not sent any representatives to the Brussels Congress. After the vote of the Liverpool Trade Union Congress accepting the invitation to Brussels, there might have been a hundred or so English delegates, had the Congress been kept on the old lines. As it is, there are only 31 English delegates. These comprise only one new representative of the old and stable trade unions—namely, Mr. Hobson, member of the Sheffield Town Council and delegate of the Sheffield Trades Council. Thus there is a decided falling off with regard to the more influential trade unions. The chief and novel feature of the English delegation is the appearance of members of the Social Democratic Federation as delegates of trade unions. This is a significant fact. At the congress of 1889, the Social Democratic Federation sent 14 delegates; on the present occasion the Federation is represented by only five delegates. But, on the other hand, no fewer than eight trade unions have elected members of the Social Democratic Federation as their representatives, thus showing how Socialism is permeating trade unionism. Still, as the Congress had fallen into the hands of the Marxists, as the Possibilist rules had not been applied, and the title changed from Workers' Congress to Socialist Congress, the English delegation was weak both in respect of trade unionists, who for the most part are not Socialists, and in respect of English Socialists, who for the most part are not Marxists. It was only at the very last moment that the Social Democratic Federation decided to send some few delegates in spite of the fact that the Belgians had broken their pledge. Much the same, too, might be said of the French Possibilists.

Whether it be in consequence of this fact or for some other reason, the Marxists have, in the face of the Congress, abandoned their Marxist principles. For the uninitiated it is necessary to explain that what constitutes one of the principal differences between what is termed Marxism and other schools of Socialism is the tendency of the Marxists to create a centralized and autocratic administration. They are accused of being dogmatic doctrinaires and of seeking to impose, in all countries, leaders whom they personally like and choose, but whom the nationalities concerned have not themselves selected. Hence the anti-Marxists constantly claim that each nationality should appoint its own leaders independently of any outside influence and should adopt its own line of tactics—in a word, local autonomy has been the cry of the anti-Marxists. In the present instance, however, the Marxists themselves have, through their most favoured leaders, taken up the same cry. They have voted against the creation of any central organization to govern the future working men's association. They have rejected even the proposal to adopt one single title to designate the party in all countries. Not only are they against a central international organization, but they actually oppose a central national organization which shall act as a sort of house of call or bureau of correspondence to maintain international relations. If these protestations are sincere, if this conversion is real, far-reaching consequences may be anticipated. It must not be forgotten that it was the attempted autocratic and centralized domination the Marxists sought to exercise which brought about the disruption and destruction of the old International Workmen's Association. If the Marxists had spoken 20 years ago as they have spoken this week at Brussels the International would probably have lived to this day.

All this is obviously of considerable importance, for it holds out some prospect of complete union between Socialists, and might, therefore, bring to an end the feud which has lasted for now a quarter of a century. It is hard, however, to believe that this old warfare will have come so suddenly and quietly to an end. The very intrigues by which the Belgians were made to break the pledge they had given to the Possibilists does not seem a good foundation for this new departure for most unexpected peace. The unexpected, nevertheless, very often happens; and if there really is to be an end of the feud between the Marxists and the anti-Marxists it does not matter much what else is done. This is, in itself, a big enough result for one Congress.

### THE SOCIALIST LABOUR CONGRESS AT BRUSSELS.

BRUSSELS, AUG. 22.

The Socialist Labour Congress met for its seventh and concluding sitting this morning at half-past 10 o'clock. For this occasion three presidents were appointed—M. Brandt (Switzerland), Señor Iglesias (Spain), and M. Lasynek (Poland), and these were assisted in regulating the discussions by the secretary, M. Jean Volders.

The questions of piecework and sub-contracting were first dealt with, and after speeches had been delivered by Mr. Walker, of the Cabinet Makers' Alliance (London), M. Vliegen (Holland), M. Bertrand (Belgium), M. Beving (Holland), M. Valadon (France), and Mr. Cahan (United States), the Congress agreed unanimously to a resolution condemning both systems.

The following resolution was then taken into consideration:—

"This Congress invites the Socialist parties and labour parties of all countries to affirm energetically in their programmes the complete equality of the two sexes and to demand the concession to women of the same political and civil rights as men, and the repeal of all laws placing women outside public rights."

The resolution, which was brought forward by M. W. Drucker, was very favourably received, and, after some discussion, was passed with only three dissentient voices.

This closed the morning sitting.

Business was resumed in the afternoon at half-past 3, when the Congress proceeded to consider the advisability of holding international demon-

istrations on May 1 next in favour of an eight hours day. Mr. Petersen, a Danish delegate, who reported on behalf of the committee appointed to investigate the subject, stated that at the outset there appeared to be some difficulties in the way, as the British section could not guarantee the holding of demonstrations on that day, while the Germans had a preference for the first Sunday in May. In the result a compromise was arrived at, and the committee accordingly submitted to the Congress a resolution in favour of universal peace, "or on May 1, if possible," thus leaving it open for any country to choose another date if more convenient.

Speeches having been delivered by M. Roscher (Austria), Herr Bebel, Dr. V. Jaclard, a French delegate, and Mr. Burrows (London), an addition to the resolution was proposed by M. Vaillant, to the effect that the eight hours day demonstration should be undertaken as also one in favour of universal peace. M. van Loon, a Dutch delegate, objected to the amendment, on the ground that it might provoke counter demonstrations of a "Jingoist" character.

When the vote was about to be taken it was found that the resolution as printed in French differed from the English version, while the German rendering varied somewhat from both. In the French form the demonstrations were fixed absolutely for May 1, the words "if possible" being so placed as to apply not to the beginning but to the cessation of work on that day. Much time and energy was wasted in discussing this point, the British section being of opinion that the qualification should be made to apply to May day. Eventually M. Vaillant's amendment was rejected, the delegates from Great Britain, Austria, Spain, Denmark, Holland, Italy, Rumania, Sweden, and Norway voting against it, and the others in favour, while the Belgian, French, Polish, and Swiss groups gave their support. The main resolution was then put, when the representatives of every nationality voted unanimously in favour of fixing the date absolutely on May 1, with the exception of the British, whose votes were given in the contrary sense.

It was then decided that the exact title of the next Congress, to be held in 1893, should be left over to be decided by that body itself, and the question of the most suitable meeting-place was then discussed. The American representatives had invited the Congress to go to Chicago, but M. Volders announced that, owing to the expense of the passage across the Atlantic, the Standing Orders Committee could not recommend the acceptance of that proposal. It suggested that the next Congress should take place in Switzerland, and that the arrangements connected with it, including the choice of the precise locality, should be left to the Swiss labour party. The committee, Mr. Volders added, was very sorry that it could not select Chicago, but it expressed the hope that a few Continental delegates might soon attend a congress in the United States, as a few representatives from the United States had come to the present assembly.

Mr. Sennihius thanked M. Volders for his kind words on behalf of the American section. Mr. Taylor, of the London Trade Council, moved that the recommendation of the Standing Orders Committee in respect to Switzerland should be adopted by the Congress, and proposed Geneva as the place of meeting. He was of opinion that no one should be permitted to attend as a delegate whose expenses were not paid by the organization he represented, and that the first week in August would be the most suitable time. He had mentioned Geneva, he explained, because that city was looked upon by Englishmen as the cradle of liberty and as the asylum of all political refugees. He was in favour of the first week in August, because the days of rest were fixed, there would probably be fuller representation of British organizations. His proposal with respect to expenses aimed at excluding those men of the middle class who were only too willing to pay their own expenses in order to oppose the progress of the labour movement. These suggestions were favourably received, and it was decided that they should be considered at a later date. Meanwhile, however, the resolution in favour of holding the Congress of 1893 in Switzerland was unanimously adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Sennihius, the Congress then passed a resolution conveying its heartiest wishes for the success of the Socialist Congress which it is proposed to hold at Ghent in 1893, and announcing its determination to send to all events a few delegates from the Continent. The resolution was carried amid much enthusiasm, as was also another expressing similar good wishes in regard to the Seamen's Congress which is to take place next year at Bordeaux.

Mr. Volders then spoke. That gathering, he declared, was an historical one. As for the cause of labour, its advancement was assured. "We look forward," he said, "to the ultimate triumph of the united proletariats of Europe."

Herr Bebel, who followed, and was greeted with extraordinary enthusiasm, congratulated the Congress on the success which had attended it. M. Chauvière, the member of the Paris Municipal Council who was arrested at the beginning of the week, but who subsequently received permission to remain in Brussels during the sittings of the Congress, spoke of that commune of the people which was to come, which would serve as a monument to the heroes and martyrs who fell in the Paris Commune of 1871.

Mr. Burrows, on behalf of his brother delegates, as well as of millions of English workers at home, assured the Congress that its hopes and aspirations were shared by Great Britain. He trusted his countrymen would prove to another international gathering to celebrate the downfall of that system of tyrannical capitalism in opposing which men and women had toiled and suffered, and struggled and died, but which would then be replaced by the great international brotherhood of man.

After this speech, which was received with loud cheering, the Congress closed at half-past 7 amid loud cries of "Hurrah for the Social Revolution," followed by the singing of the "Marseillaise." To-night a fête is being given at the Maison du Peuple to the foreign delegates, and to-morrow all the members of the Congress, with their guests, go on an excursion to Ghent.—*Reuter's Special Service.*

